

Editorial

On April 23, 1903, Ivan P. Pavlov gave a lecture in Madrid entitled “Experimental Psychology and Psychopathology in Animals” at the Medical School of the University of Madrid. It was the first time he presented his discoveries concerning *conditioned reflexes* to the international scientific community. His research was a great contribution to the development of psychology as a scientific discipline, both in his native country and abroad.

To commemorate the 100 year anniversary of this *Madrid Lecture*, an *International Seminar* was held at the University Complutense of Madrid between April 25th and April 28th 2003. Spanish and foreign specialists came together to discuss Pavlov’s work and the implications it would have going into the 21st century. It was obvious that *The Spanish Journal of Psychology*, the official journal of the Psychology School at the University Complutense, should publish the contributions that came about as a result of this Seminar.

This special issue presents the contributions of the participants in the Seminar, except that of Professor Todes, which was not submitted. We have, however, included an article by Professor Furedy, who is a specialist in Pavlovian theory. Readers will find a wide variety of views expressed in the articles here, regarding the theories and contributions made by the Russian investigator. Professors Bandrés and Llavona; Boakes; Ruiz, Sánchez and De la Casa, analyze Pavlov and his influence on Spanish, Anglo-Saxon and American Psychology, respectively. Professors Klimenko and Golikov offer a review of the past and present of the Ivan P. Pavlov Department of Physiology. Professor Fuentes considers Pavlov’s work from an epistemological point of view, followed by Professor Furedy’s perspective which is critical of the current paradigm in current Psychology. Professors Plaud and Aguado describe Pavlovian methods in behavioral therapy and cognitive neuroscience, respectively. Professor García-Hoz takes on the question of the nature of Pavlovian conditioning regarding the classic distinction between signalization and stimulus substitution. Finally, Professors Mackintosh and Rescorla show how Pavlov’s research continues to shed light on important questions in contemporary psychology, such as the representation or adaptive use of knowledge in animals and humans.

Professors Bandrés and Llavona, as Seminar organizers, were responsible for contacting the authors, so that their initial papers could be adapted to the requirements of the journal. They assumed the responsibility of coordinating this special issue, and so, they are featured here as Associate Editors.

We hope that this issue will be useful internationally to all those who are interested in Pavlov’s theories and in the present day research based on his theories throughout the many disciplines of psychology.
— Juan Fernández, *Editor*